

**IN THE ABSTRACT:**

Please accept the following substitute abstract of the disclosure in connection with this application:

A vehicle seat assembly including a lower seat cushion with an upper surface and a lower surface. The vehicle seat assembly also has a plurality of sensor assemblies positioned adjacent the lower surface of the lower seat cushion. The sensor assemblies are responsive to a condition of the lower seat cushion. The vehicle seat assembly also has at least one reinforcing insert disposed between at least one of the sensor assemblies and the lower surface of the lower seat cushion. The reinforcing insert protects the lower seat cushion by more evenly distributing pressure from the sensor assemblies onto the lower seat cushion to prevent premature wear and maintain comfort over the course of its operating lifetime.